

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-33 are pending in the application.

Claims 12-17, 21, 22, 26-29 and 31 have been cancelled.

**Restriction Requirement**

The Examiner has required restriction to one of the following inventions under 35 U.S.C.

§ 121:

Group I. Claims 1-11, 18-20, 23-25, 30, 32 and 33, drawn to a method a block-level write operation causes a value to be written to a "...*region of a primary volume that stores a first type of a plurality of types of file system metadata, and wherein...the primary volume stores the first type of file system metadata...*", classified in class 711, subclass 114 or 161.

Group II. Claims 12-17, 21, 22, 26-29 and 31, drawn to a system method for receiving a block-level write operation to a primary volume and associated information, in response to the associated information, determining that less than all of the block-level write operation should be transferred to a secondary site during replication of data in the primary volume, classified in class 711, subclass 162.

In response to the Examiner's restriction requirement, the applicants hereby elect, without traverse, to prosecute claims 1-11, 18-20, 23-25, 30, 32 and 33, drawn to a method a block-level write operation causes a value to be written to a "...*region of a primary volume that stores a first type of a plurality of types of file system metadata, and wherein...the primary volume stores the first type of file system metadata...*", classified in class 711, subclass 114 or 161.

Please cancel claims 12-17, 21, 22, 26-29 and 31 without prejudice to the subject matter disclosed therein.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on December 20, 2005.

*Brenna A. Brock*  
Attorney for Applicants

*12/20/2005*  
Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,

*Brenna A. Brock*

Brenna A. Brock  
Attorney for Applicant(s)  
Reg. No. 48,509  
Telephone: (512) 439-5084  
Facsimile: (512) 439-5099